

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph that begins at page 11, line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 5 is a process flow diagram showing a method of providing a signal from a USB device over a local network to a local processor in accordance with a specific embodiment of the present invention. In the method, a USB packet is generated at the USB device 110. Then, The, the USB packet is encapsulated in one or more network packets 112 by the USB device adapter. The network packets are transmitted over the network 114. In the protocol stack of the USB remote host control driver, the USB packet is decapsulated from the network packets 116. Then, the USB packet is provided to the processor 118 for further processing. It will be appreciated that this method is completely reversible. When transmitting control signals or data (e.g., output to USB speakers), the processor-generated USB signals are encapsulated, transmitted over the network, and decapsulated at the destination USB device.

Please replace the paragraph that begins at page 12, line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 6 is a process flow diagram showing a method of establishing a connection between a local processor and a USB device over a local network in accordance with a specific embodiment of the present invention. In this method, a USB device adapter candidate list is configured 130. The list includes the network address of at least one USB device adapter.

Configuration may be performed manually, or may be accomplished by a “plug-and-play” routine. The polling routine polls an address on the candidate list 132. This polling includes encapsulating a USB packet in one ~~or~~ or more network packets. If a USB device adapter is present at the address, the polling routine receives a positive response from the USB device adapter 134. The process includes decapsulating a USB packet from one ~~or~~ or more network packets. Once the positive response is recognized, the address and a USB device adapter identifier is added to a master list of USB device adapters on the network 136.

Please replace the paragraph that begins at page 13, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

To identify USB devices connected to a USB device adapter on the network, a port on a USB adapter device on the master list is polled by the polling routine 138. Such polling also includes encapsulating a USB packet in one ~~or~~ or more network packets. If a USB device is present at the port, a positive response from a USB device connected to said port is received 140. Again, such receiving including decapsulating a USB packet from one ~~or~~ or more network packets. Finally, the responding USB device is enumerated in the operating system of the gateway 142.

Please replace the paragraph that begins at page 13, line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 7 is a process flow diagram showing a method of providing a signal from a USB device to a processor on the Internet in accordance with a specific embodiment of the present

invention. In the method, a USB packet is generated at the USB device 150. The USB packet is encapsulated in one or more local network packets 152. The local network packets are transmitted over the local network 154. Upon arriving at the gateway, the USB packet are is decapsulated from the local network packets 156. Then, based on previously provided instructions, the USB packet is encapsulated in one or more IP packets 158. The IP packets are transmitted over the Internet 160. Finally, the IP packets are provided to the processor at their destination on the Internet 162.

Please replace the paragraph that begins at page 15, line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 10 is a process flow diagram showing a method of providing the identification of USB devices connected to USB device adapters in a network in accordance with a specific embodiment of the present invention. In enumerating USB devices connected to a USB device adapter on the master list, the routine first resets all the ports on the USB device adapter 190. Then, the routine begins at the top of the list of ports 192. For as long as there are ports left on the list 194, the routine determines by polling if there is a device attached to the port 196. If so, the device is assigned an address in the USB remote host control driver 198. The routine then determine determines if the attached device is a hub or a peripheral device 200. If the attached device is a peripheral, the USB remote host control driver is configured accordingly. If the device is a hub, the ports on the hub are polled and downstream USB devices are enumerated 202.

Please replace the paragraph that begins at page 19, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

In another aspect, the invention includes a method of establishing a connection between a local processor and a USB device over a local network. The method comprises configuring a USB device adapter candidate list where the list includes the network address of at least one USB device adapter, polling an address on the candidate list where the polling includes encapsulating a USB packet in one ~~one~~ or more network packets, receiving a positive response from a USB device adapter to said polling where the receiving includes decapsulating a USB packet from one ~~one~~ or more network packets, and adding the address and a USB device adapter identifier to a master list. The method may further comprise polling a port on a USB adapter device on the master list where the polling includes encapsulating a USB packet in one ~~one~~ or more network packets, receiving a positive response from a USB device connected to said port where the receiving includes decapsulating a USB packet from one ~~one~~ or more network packets, and enumerating a USB device in the operating system of the processor.